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BRODERSOHN LINKS ECONOMIC GROWTH, DEBT IN TALKS

PY042116 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] (DYNA-NA) -- Treasury Secretary Mario Brodersohn yesterday said Argentina "will have difficulties" in paying its foreign debt if creditor banks do not grant a 2.1 billion dollar loan and a significant reduction in interest rates.

However, Brodersohn refused to comment on the possibility of Argentina following in Brazil's footsteps by declaring a unilateral moratorium on its interest payments.

The secretary, who arrived from New York on Saturday after the first round of negotiations with the creditor banks' steering committee, added that our country "will not sacrifice growth goals, because there is only a solution to the problem of the debt within the framework of economic growth."

He ruled out the possibility of coming to an agreement with the banks within the next few days, but stressed the negotiations of the terms of 1987 finance programme will begin tomorrow.

"We have emphasized that we do not want more delays or wasted time, but that we want a fast and serious arrangement," he said.

He went on to explain that the Argentine delegation told bankers that "we need growth, and so that we can achieve this and they can collect their interest we need 2.1 billion dollars and a significant drop in interest (rates).

When asked about Brazil's decision to declare a unilateral moratorium, Brodersohn said that "the case of Brazil is similar to our situation. In 1985 and 1986, they (Brazil) had a trade surplus and paid 100 percent of their interest payments, then they did not have any resources to invest and grow, and that is why Dilson Funaro (Brazil's finance minister) is saying that if they (the banks) want to receive their interest, Brazil needs support from the international banking system."

He added that "fifteen days ago we presented details of our economic programme for this year to the banks -- they took the papers, they have been studying them, and we believe that we will have an answer before the week is over."

PERONISTS PROPOSE CHANGE IN FALKLANDS POLICY

PY041837 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1052 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Mar (NA) -- The Justicialist Party has submitted an "alternative proposal" to the government to confront the conflictive situation with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands. It proposes a series of measures to generate "situations that will entail taking calculated risks but which must be minimized as much as possible."

Among the measures proposed by the Justicialist Party, to be taken up as "a banner of struggle," is the confiscation of "the assets of British subjects" and the calling of Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty (TIAR) meeting to confront the aggression resulting from the escalation of the conflict promoted by Great Britain.

The Peronist initiative was disclosed yesterday during a news conference held by Vicente Saadi, the Justicialist Party board president; and by Alberto Rodriguez Saa, third Justicialist Party vice president.

After announcing the proposal, which is contained in a 6-page document, Saadi answered questions about the situation in the military sector as a result of the prosecution of a group of Navy officers. Saadi said that the Justicialist Party "believes justice must be done and that we must achieve the unity of Argentines."

Regarding his party's alliance policy, the head of the Peronist Party said that agreements at the national level "will be carried out through the National Party Board" while those achieved at the party district level "will be subject to the consideration of provincial party councils."

Regarding the initiative of some sectors within the party renewal faction to change national party "authorities", Saadi stated that the present board was elected during a national party congress and he reminded that the congress "established that new party authorities must be elected by a direct vote."

The senator from the Catamarca province said that Peronism "will continue to be led by the same authorities until the present electoral process expires." He also said that it will be up to current party authorities to establish the strategy that the Justicialist Party will follow during the September elections."

After criticizing the Argentine Foreign Ministry for the handling of the conflict with Great Britain, the Peronist proposal to confront this conflict says that "with the almost clandestine cooperation of the U.S. Government, the government has negotiated with Great Britain."

After stating that "these negotiations have evaded the sovereignty issue," it adds that this issue "has also avoided bilateral agreements that have been achieved with the United Kingdom within the framework of the Paris Club" as "reported in the '1987 Financial Program' which was submitted to creditor banks on 12 February."

The "alternative proposal" submitted by the Justicialist Party begins by stating that "we must start by admitting that Argentina lacks the materiel to defeat the military forces of the United Kingdom and its allies in a military confrontation over the possession of the Malvinas Islands."

It adds that "because there is no limit to the support that the U.S. Government, and some other governments of the Americas, grant to British policy, Argentina and Latin American countries cannot continue to accept that the TIAR be unilaterally manipulated by U.S. policy."

The proposal states that Argentina must view the British as merely an occupying force and the situation in the Malvinas as an operation of a military nature "so as to continue to demonstrate the conflictive nature of this occupation -- not only through statements but also through deeds -- even at the cost of taking calculated risks, although they must be minimized as much as possible."

The proposal states that Argentina "will patrol with all its means its own economic exclusion zone" including that "nearest to the Malvinas Islands." It adds that "it will refrain from entering the exclusion zone until it is decided otherwise and while the situation with Great Britain remains unchanged."

The proposal adds that "the fishing by ships from third party countries, acting on either government or private bilateral agreements signed with the United Kingdom, must be discouraged but without provoking a military confrontation from entering the exclusion zone."

After stating that an urgent meeting of TIAR members must be called, the Justicialist Party adds that this meeting must be called "to study proper political, economic, and military measures."

FURTHER ON MILITARY OFFICERS' HUMAN RIGHTS TRIALS

Pertusio on Navy 'Virtues'

PY042113 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 3 Mar 87 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Outgoing Navy War College director Rear-Admiral Roberto Pertusio said yesterday that "in the last few years they have threatened to change our moral fibre, as if suddenly they had found a new set of moral virtues to replace those which stand as the firm and solid base of our Navy."

Pertusio's speech preceded an address today by Navy Chief-of-Staff Ramon Arosa, in which he will reportedly touch on the need to combine support for the constitutional order with the maximum defence for officers summoned by the courts and the maintenance of unity in the force.

Pertusio warned that "harsh treatment welds really noble materials together, strengthens them, makes them shine," in reference to the recent questioning of the Navy's behaviour during the war against left-wing subversion.

"The years my naval generation had to go through were difficult and the last years even more so. These times call for great moderation and there is no reason to think the next few years will be easier or simpler," said Pertusio.

In related news, Defence Secretary Alfredo Mosso said yesterday he did not know if "the spaghetti had butter or tomato sauce on it," when asked to comment on an incident of alleged insubordination in a meeting of serving army officers.

During the meeting, General Roberto Boccalandro reportedly expressed his agreement with the "dirty war" staged by the Armed Forces against subversion and said he had "stains" on his jacket, in apparent reference to his participation in the anti-terrorist campaign, upon which an unidentified captain quipped: "It must be the tomato sauce," according to AMBITO FINANCIERO business daily.

Mosso asserted that the officers summoned to testify in the next few days will turn up, or face being cashiered by the Armed Forces, which is the penalty stipulated for rebellion.

Mosso also ratified that a total of 191 officers had been summoned by federal courts all over the country to testify in human rights trials.

Justice Secretary Ideler Tonelli, in turn, said it was "essential" that the courts take the principle of due obedience into account when sentencing officers for human rights offences.

Tonelli said the Federal Appeals Court was not considering the principle when it ruled the preventive arrest of ten naval officers and two Coast Guard officers last week, but that it would do so when deciding their sentences.

The Rosario Federal Appeals Court, meanwhile, will today reportedly resolve the question of competence raised by the defence attornies of retired generals Leopoldo Galtieri and Ramon Diaz Bessone, both accused by the court of human rights crimes committed under the jurisdiction of the Second Army Corps.

The 45 summonses which the court had scheduled to come into effect yesterday will be suspended until the court reaches its decision.

Arosa's Retirement 'Decided'

PY041612 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1010 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Mar (NA) -- According to different official sources, the retirement of Navy Chief of Staff Vice Admiral Ramon Arosa has been virtually decided, but it will be implemented upon the conclusion of the trials of Navy officers determined by the Full Stop Law.

Reportedly Arosa's retirement will be determined by the possible sentences of the officers currently on trial for serious human rights violations. A public declaration of high-ranking retired officers, who are members of the Naval Center, in support of the officers on trial is also expected.

Although Defense Minister Horacio Jaunarena yesterday explicitly supported Arosa at the ceremony to honor Argentine Naval Hero Admiral Guillermo Brown, government sectors and the intermediate cadre of the Navy think the Navy chief should retire "if the officers facing charges" by the Federal Court are found guilty.

A source told NA that "this is the price to be paid in this process" and that Arosa's situation can be called "an almost unbearable position." The source also said that the "coldness" of the Navy subordinates toward the naval chief is "practically unanimous" and that this situation could lead to his retirement if some of the officers on trial are found guilty or when the trials established by the Full Stop Law become "more or less normal".

"Leadership is essential to direct a force" said the source. He added that "the most sensitive part" of the Full Stop Law is now taking place.

According to various sources Arosa's eventual retirement would occur "not before' the next 90 days because during that time the situation of the accused should be defined and the "political time" to make the change would have arrived.

Now that influential official sectors have accepted the idea of Adm Arosa's retirement, some actions have reportedly been taken to find his possible successor.

In this regard, some Navy officers think the Navy chief should be an officer who was promoted to admiral during the current administration so he can act "with clean hands" and "without prices" to pay.

The same sources indicated that this way the intermediate level officers would feel "more represented" than they feel under the current leadership.

However, this is the thinking of merely one sector, but there is no definition yet at the highest levels of the executive branch. It has been learned for example that these high levels have been asking the "opinions" of retired Navy officers close to the government.

Some military analysts are not disregarding the idea that "the intention is to push for" Adm Arosa's retirement. Naval sources yesterday revealed that there was a tense meeting of retired naval officers in the Naval Center and that Admiral Ruben Franco, retired, was among them. The officers held a long debate on the need to release a public declaration supporting the officers being tried by the Federal Court. The possibility that the declaration, which may be approved in the next few hours, may include criticism against Arosa cannot be discarded. The government is already aware of the meeting in the Naval Center and is reportedly studying whether or not the officers who sign the declaration can be punished.

Regarding the "feelings" of the young officers about the case which involves the Naval Mechanics School, sources from that group have indicated that "they would be pleased to see" if the court or the government release the background of 30 of those making the accusations of violation of human rights. The source pointed out that there is currently in circulation a large file with "the subversive activities, and activities linked with terrorism" reportedly conducted by some of those making the accusations. The sources who revealed the existence of the file said that "we want to hear reports from both sides."

However, they said that so far neither the court nor the government have responded because, the sources were told, the dissemination of that information "would not contribute in any way to the spirit of reconciliation" sought by the government. The government also reportedly said that the background of the accusers does invalidate the alleged violations.

Defense Ministry Denies Report

PY041805 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1136 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 4 Mar (DYN) -- The Defense Ministry has described as "ridiculous" a press report issued yesterday which states that Navy Chief Ramon Arosa will retire once the trial proceedings against Navy officers prosecuted for human rights violations are concluded. Defense Ministry Spokesman Faustino Altamirano said that the report "cannot be described otherwise and we must subject ourselves to the message that was delivered by Admiral Arosa during the ceremony held in honor of Argentine Navy founder Admiral Brown and the statement made afterward by Defense Minister Horacio Jaunarena."

A news agency, not DYN, has reported that the Navy chief would retire. According to Aitamirano, however, "nothing could be more false at this time, when not only Arosa but all the admirals have clearly established the Navy's position regarding the current situation."

COMMUNIST PARTY DELEGATION VISITS USSR

For Soviet Union coverage of the visit of a delegation led by General Secretary of the Communist Party Athos Fava to the USSR, including his talks with Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Anatoliy Dobrynin and General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev, see the Latin America & Caribbean section of the 3 March 1987 Soviet Union DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues. Accompanying Fava were Patricio Echegaray, member of the Political Commission and the Secretariat of the Communist Party and Francisco Alvarez, member of the Political Commission of the Communist Party.

DINACOS EXPLAINS REASON FOR STUDENT'S ARREST

PY041329 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] In relation to the arrest of Claudia Elena Drago Camus, 20, university student and militant of the proscribed Communist Youth, the Government Social Communications Agency, DINACOS, has issued the following communique:

a. Claudia Elena Drago Camus was arrested by members of the National Intelligence Center [CNI] in Vina del Mar on 27 February 1987 on orders from the Second Military Court of Santiago in relation to a bomb explosion in Apartment 181, in a building located at 7680 (Lolco) street, Las Condes district.

b. It was verified that the bomb which prematurely exploded was being handled by Eduardo (Alboso) Morgan Tirado and Paola Maria Drago Camus. They escaped after threatening the guard with automatic weapons.

c. As a result of the explosion the CNI raided the house of the Drago Camus family located at 2517 Los Conquistadores Street, Providencia District. During the raid the police found among the belongings of the sisters Claudia Elena and Paola Maria Drago Camus a great deal of subversive material including instructions [words indistinct] for making and using explosive devices.

d. As a result of the evidence found an order was issued for the arrest of Claudia Elena Drago Camus in Vina del Mar. She was taken to Santiago. During the 3 days under arrest, she was allowed to meet with her lawyer and family. She was then released on 2 March and ordered to appear before the second military court in Santiago on 4 March 1987. The arrest of Claudia Elena Drago Camus was part of the regular court procedure of investigation into subversive actions.

As a result of the evidence found the CNI rejects and condemns the biased reports aimed at making the people believe that the arrest of Claudia Elena Drago Camus was made because of family links with a prominent member of the Catholic Church.

Bishop Charges Harassment

PY282142 Paris AFP in Spanish 1618 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Santiago, 28 Feb (AFP) -- Chilean Bishop Carlos Camus today reported that the arrest of two members of his family is part of an atmosphere of harassment against the Catholic Church, which might be exacerbated after the visit which Pope John Paul II will make to Chile in April this year.

Military government agents arrested a sister and a niece of the bishop in Vina del Mar, 140 km west of Santiago. Meanwhile in Santiago, other agents raided the residence of another sister of the bishop who is also the secretary of the Chilean Human Rights Commission. Police sources indicated that these operations are aimed at capturing two youngsters who escaped after a bomb exploded in a residential building in the posh Las Condes neighborhood on 23 February.

Bishop Camus reported that in Vina del Mar the agents arrested his sister Margarita Camus, who was later released, and his niece Claudia Drago Camus, 18, who was taken to Santiago and is being held at a CNI (National Intelligence Center) station. I am afraid all this means that there is a campaign under way against me, the bishop of Linares told Radio Cooperativa.

The government newspaper LA NACION reported that when CNI agents raided the house of the bishop's other sister, Maria Elena Camus, they discovered manuals on how to manufacture bombs and secret documents of the leftist FPMR (Manuel Rodriguez Patroitic Front).

The bishop added that Maria Elena Camus' residence had already been raided by Carabineros earlier this week. During this raid the subversive material reported by the CNI was not found.

I was there 2 days ago and there was nothing, the bishop said, adding that the things that have been happening to his relatives could foreshadow the treatment that the Catholic Church will be given after the Pope's visit.

There are several suspicious coincidences according to Monsignor Camus who is one of the harshest critics of President Augusto Pinochet's military government within the Chilean Episcopal Conference.

Pope John Paul II is due to arrive in April for a 6-day visit as part of a South American tour, which will include Argentina and Uruguay.

COURT INDICTS COLONEL INVOLVED IN TORCHING CASE

PY041347 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0930 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] The 2d Santiago Military Court has indicted former Army Colonel Rene Munoz Bruce on charges of perjury as established in Item No 370 of the Military Justice Code. The court is acting upon charges raised by the Army following an internal investigation into the case of the torching of two youths.

Former Colonel Munoz Bruce was the commander of the Los Libertadores Regiment at the time of an incident which involved a Santiago patrol and a group of unidentified persons who were trying to set up barricades.

The incident took place on 2 July 1986 at the corner of General Velazquez Avenue and Hernan Yungue Street during a so-called day of peaceful protest. As a result of the confusing incident, Rodriguez Rojas Denegri and Carmen Gloria Quintana were burned. Rojas Denegri died as a result of the injuries he sustained while the latter traveled abroad, from where she has been carrying out intensive political activity.

GOVERNMENT ALLOWS 305 MORE EXILES TO RETURN

PY030015 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 March 87

[Text] The Chilean Government has allowed another 305 exiles to return. Interior Minister Ricardo Garcia revealed this a few minutes ago, and added that this makes 1,513 people who have been authorized to return. Meanwhile, 1,980 people are still under consideration.

Garcia said that the timetable is being fulfilled, and the rest of the list can be worked out in March in order to have a clear view of the situation. Questioned about the request by Supreme Court Judge Rafael Retamal, who at the opening of the judicial season asked the government to abolish the laws that allow exile, Garcia said that there are two aspects to be considered on this subject: the legal aspect, and the aspect of the practical application of the law regarding those who cannot enter the country. He nevertheless promised that in due time the government will study the amendments to the law. Among those allowed to return are Edgardo Condesa Vacaro and Carlos Manuel Caucaman Perez.

SOCIALIST LEADER ALMEYDA WARNS OF 'HOT' AUTUMN

PY280209 Paris AFP in Spanish 1849 GMT 20 Feb 87

[Text] Lima, 20 Feb (AFP) -- Clodomiro Almeyda, former Chilean foreign minister and Socialist Party [PS] leader, said today in Lima that Chile will experience a hot autumn, a March filled with harsh struggles to be able to welcome Pope John II in a free democratic and sovereign country in April.

Speaking to the press at the 11th Permanent Conference of Latin American Political Parties (COPPPAL) meeting that began its sessions today in Lima, Almeyda said that bayonets can be used for many things, except to protect yourself from the people, and this is why Pinochet will fall. Almeyda said that 1987 is a key year, a year of great importance for the return of democracy in Chile where the people, through different methods, are staunchly struggling to topple the government of President Augusto Pinochet.

Almeyda added: Pinochet has been losing all political and social support. Now he only has the support of the Armed Forces. This is the only thing keeping him in power. Moreover, we must not forget the recent UN resolution that condemns those dictatorships that violate human rights. Almeyda said that in the near future, Chileans will again tread the path of freedom, democracy, and social justice, because there is a clear determination to end this dictatorship.

He did not reject the use of violence to achieve the return of democracy, stating that he believes that the struggle against the dictatorship can be carried out in many ways, but the main thing is for the people to take to the streets and struggle.

Almeyda added that since he has been in exile, after the military coup that ousted President Salvador Allende whom he served, he has been dedicated to intellectual activities such as university teaching, and he said that he is presently residing in the GDR. He added that the situation of Chilean exiles is very difficult because of the many years they have been in exile. Many of us are unable to return to our fatherland because there is a list of thousands of persons who are not allowed to return to Chile under any circumstances.

In an informal press conference held with Peruvian journalists, Almeyda said that the fact that the Chilean Government is now allowing the return of exiles is a farce. It has never cared, and it will never care, about the fact that we have no contact with our fatherland, with our people, or our relatives.

Regarding the COPPPAL meeting, the Chilean politicians said that the organizations that group important Latin American political parties strengthen democracy in the region and support those countries that struggle to restore democracy in their own countries.

SOCIALISTS ON ELECTORAL LAW, POLITICAL PARTIES

PY031548 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2041 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Santiago, 2 Mar (EFE) -- While officially expressing its opinion on the new political laws of the military government of General Augusto Pinochet, the Chilean Socialist Party (PS) today approved the electoral law and rejected the bill on the registration of political parties.

The Socialists, who held a meeting last weekend, a meeting that was chaired by [PS Secretary General] Ricardo Nunez, have decided to approve, although with objections, the bill on the registration of political parties and urged citizens to register.

Concerning the bill on political parties, the Socialists expressed their decision not to register the PS because to do so under this system would be "harmful."

In comments to EFE, Nunez explained that when one reviews the new initiatives promoted by the government, one must bear in mind that "the vast majority of the people, who want democracy, are the ones who forced the government to restore the electoral registries.

"The people's democratic struggle has forced the government to admit the existence of the very political parties that it tried to destroy for the past 13 years," the PS leader added.

To the Socialists, neither the law nor the bill "come close to satisfying the minimum conditions needed to achieve an effective restoration of democracy, because they came about within the framework of the repressive system, and because they permit the chance that the people's decision can be sabotaged."

The Chilean Socialists claim that "these measures have been conceived to block the restoration of the people's right to vote and to freely elect their authorities; their articles are cunning and lend themselves to dishonest maneuvers."

Concerning their decision to urge all citizens to register at the electoral registries, the Socialists stated that, despite all their objections, "the electoral registries are a basic condition for all Chilean citizens to exercise their right to vote."

Explaining their refusal to register as a political party under the new law, the Chilean Socialists state that "the goal of this law is to limit, restrict, and control the activities of the parties, and to ban the political activities of an important sector of the people." In a statement, the Chilean Socialists that say that "the PS considers harmful the registration of opposition parties under the law enacted by the current regime and for this reason the PS has raised the need for the opposition to take a common stand on this issue."

In the opinion of the Chilean Socialists, the basic task now in Chilean politics is "to mobilize the entire country, seek to hold free elections, and strengthen the agreements reached."

Thus far, most of the opposition parties, with the exception of the social democrats, who expressed their decision to join the system, have not revealed their decisions about registering.

ATTORNEY GENERAL: EXTRADITION LAW 'INAPPROPRIATE'

PA050021 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 1730 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Report by Irma Londono Arango]

[Text] In a news conference today Colombian Attorney General Carlos Mauro Hoyos said that the extradition law signed by President Virgilio Barco in December 1986 is inappropriate [inexequible]. Hoyos suggested that the Colombian Congress should make the decisions on this issue.

[Londono Arango] At noon today, Colombian Attorney General Carlos Mauro Hoyos requested the Colombian Supreme Court of Justice to declare Law No 68 of 1986 inappropriate. Through this law, President Barco approved the extradition treaty signed with the United States. Similarly, Hoyos asked the government to again submit the extradition treaty signed with the United States on 14 September 1979 for the approval of the Colombian Congress.

[Begin Hoyos recording] The only thing one can conclude is that in the drafting of Law No 68 of 1986, the requirements established in Article No 81 of the Constitution were not fulfilled, except for the approval of the treaty, because it lacks a bill, debates, and the required approvals that each congressional chamber should issue as established in the Constitution. In view of all that has been stated, the Colombian attorney general considers that Law No 68 of 1986 is inappropriate and asks the Supreme Court of Justice to declare it so. [end recording]

[Londono Arango] Hoyos said that the executive branch violated Section 6 of Article No 118, which reads: to contribute to the making of laws by presenting bills through the ministers, exercising the right to oppose them, and fulfilling the duty of approving them in accordance with the Constitution. Hoyos said that Section 2 of Article No 120 was also violated. This article reads: To promulgate and obey the approved laws and to ensure that they are observed.

CONSERVATIVES REQUEST RENEGOTIATION OF DEBT

PA050144 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Report by Jaro Alberto Marin]

[Text] Gabriel Melo Guevara, the president of the Conservative Party directorate, today proposed that the government renegotiate the conditions under which the Colombian foreign debt is settled, in view of the new coffee situation.

[Begin Melo recording] The country's situation will place us in a difficult condition regarding the balance of payments. The best thing to do right now is to renegotiate the payment of the foreign debt to avoid subsequent complications. [end recording]

At the meeting, the Conservative directorate appointed commissions to visit various regions in the country. These commissions will set up strategies for direct election of mayors. Similarly, the commission members stated that they would be willing to form coalitions with liberal groups. They also ratified their decision not to form an alliance with the Patriotic Union for the election of mayors.

REPORTAGE ON FAILURE OF COFFEE-GROWERS MEETING

U.S., Brazil Blamed

PA040144 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Bogota -- Colombia regretted the failure of its negotiations at a meeting of coffee-growing countries in London and, during the plenary session of the International Coffee Organization, [OIC], strongly criticized the intemperate and even irresponsible postures of some participants, which made it impossible to reach an agreement.

During the final session, Jorge Cardenas, manager of the National Federation of Coffee Growers [Federal Nacional de Cafeteros], read an official statement on behalf of Colombia stressing Colombia's actions and efforts in the meeting. He said that these efforts clashed with inflexible postures that will lead to strong repercussions in the international coffee market. Cardenas added that, in view of this, Colombia will use every available commercial instrument to defend the country's interest. The leader of the coffee growers held the United States and Brazil directly responsible for the outcome of the meeting and, in remarks for CARACOL at the end of a tense session that lasted more than 15 hours, he said that Colombia's conciliatory posture led the delegation to make concessions such as renouncing 250,000 of the 350,000 bags of coffee by which Colombia's basic export quota would have been raised. All was to no avail, however.

Cardenas also said: In view of this fait accompli, I think Colombia is prepared, more than any other country, to face the situation. We will make great efforts to prevent the country's coffee export revenue from decreasing. We will apply a serious, cautious, flexible sales policy without provoking a price drop. I hope a price war is not unleashed because it would harm the economies of all of the producing countries. An accord or defense compact cannot be expected now because the producing countries harmed each other during this meeting. It is necessary for them to first heal their wounds. Cardenas told the Colombian coffee growers that, despite the London failure, the economies of the federation and the National Coffee Fund strengthened during the 14-month price bonanza. In this way, the continuation and stability of their revenues will be guaranteed, thus keeping domestic prices adjusted to the market reality.

Opposition Urges Action

PA040244 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Manizales -- In Caldas Department, the breaking of the world coffee agreement provoked a wave of appeals to President Virgilio Barco's government to take advantage of the free market and sell the department's current inventory of 10.3 million bags of coffee. Opposition leader Rodrigo Marin Bernal, the Conservative Party's economic affairs spokesman, exhorted the administration to act with imagination, audacity, and determination to face the emergency situation brought about by the London disagreement. He recalled that his party had predicted the price war.

In addition, former Colombian Foreign Minister Fernando Londono y Londono hailed the setting free of the international coffee markets and recommended that Colombia join the inevitable price war because the country has sufficient coffee in stock and the necessary quality to be competitive, as has been acknowledged throughout the world.

Minister: No Change in Economy

PA050105 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Finance and Public Credit Minister Cesar Gaviria Trujillo has said that Colombia will not change its internal economic policy in spite of the fact that international coffee prices have drastically dropped as a result of the stubborn stand adopted by the United States that led to the failure of the London negotiations for reestablishing export quotas. As a result of its attitude, U.S. relations with many developing countries have deteriorated.

Speaking with the CARACOL network, the chief of Colombia's public finances insisted that within the next few months the effects of this attitude will be felt particularly in Central America and Africa because these countries depend mainly on coffee. Undoubtedly, it would have been better for Colombia if we could have worked within the agreement whereby certain revenues were practically guaranteed based on quotas and prices defined within a certain range. However, with its marketing mechanisms, the country is in a position to maintain and guarantee foreign revenues similar to those of recent years, although not the same as those of 1986.

Minister Gaviria Trujillo emphasized that there is no reason for a general alarm in the economy. Colombia has a solid exchange situation because last year the country accumulated a level of international reserves that is equivalent to approximately 9 months of exports. This allows us to face these difficulties with no problems, maintain imports at a level established in the previous year, and guarantee reasonable growth in 1987.

BRIEFS

DRUG CONFISCATIONS, ARRESTS -- National Police forces yesterday arrested four drug traffickers, closed down a cocaine-processing laboratory, and destroyed a large coca plantation. A large farm was raided in Puerto Alegria, Amazonas; Luz Lozano, the owner, was arrested but some 20-30 men escaped into the jungle. In another action Nelly Rodriguez Trujillo was arrested in Sibundoy, a Putumayo community, when police found her carrying 1,500 grams of pure cocaine. Police also raided a farm in Salgar municipality, Antioquia Department, and found a sophisticated cocaine-processing laboratory. The report adds that the police seized 4 kg of cocaine paste, 60 gallons of ether, 8 gallons of hydrochloric acid, and other elements; and arrested Arnobio Gonzalez Salazar and Maria Elena Bermudez de Gonzalez. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 20 Feb 87 p 2 PA]

MARIJUANA SEIZURE -- Narcotics Police have confiscated the largest quantity of marijuana this year. Seventy tons of marijuana, worth $800 million in the black market, were confiscated in Serrania de Perija, Cesar Department this week. Police said that the 70 tons of high-quality marijuana, called "marimba," were packed and ready to be shipped to the United States. It was reported that the "marimba" was burned on the spot in the presence of delegates from the Attorney General's Office. [Excerpts] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Feb 87 p 2a PA]

COST OF LIVING RISE -- DANE [National Adminstrative Department of Statistics] reports that the Colombian consumers price index is 2.03 percent. In the first 2 months of 1987, the Colombian cost of living has increased by 5.37 percent. [Summary] [Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 2 in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Mar 87 PA]

SOCIALIST DEPUTY QUESTIONS U.S. TROOPS PRESENCE

PA041520 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0410 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Quito, 3 Mar (EFE) -- The presence of U.S. troops in Ecuador has been reported in the National Congress and a request has been made for the foreign and defense ministers to appear before Congress to explain the reasons for this presence.

Socialist Deputy Diego Delgado, a member of the congressional majority bloc, asked the International Affairs Committee to investigate the charge. He said that U.S. soldiers has arrived in Manabi Province, 400 km west of Quito, "with the pretext" of building almost 30-km of roads between the towns of Canoas and San Vicente.

Previously, a similar charge was made by Social Democratic Deputy Trajano Andrade, leader of the legislative bloc of the majority Democratic Left Party.

Some months ago, Delgado has asked for a written reply from the national defense minister "so that there will be documentary proof of issues inherent to the defense of the national sovereignty."

In accordance with the proposal made to the International Affairs Committee, National Defense Minister General Medardo Salazar, retired, and Foreign Minister Rafael Garcia must appear before Congress to explain why U.S. soldiers are in Ecuador. Military spokesmen said that these soldiers are expert U.S. Army engineers who want to demonstrate modern systems of planning and building roads, in accordance with cooperation agreements. Questioned by EFE, the defense under secretariat said it was not aware of the situation. The charge added that in the zone in question there are special mineral resources such as uranium and titanium.

FEBRES CORDERO DELIVERS ARMY DAY SPEECH

PA281937 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] I believe that the past guides us, the present enlightens us, and the future is our only evident aim, President Leon Febres Cordero said during the civic-military ceremony held in the Eloy Alfaro Military Academy to celebrate Army Day.

[Begin Febres Cordero recording, broadcast in progress] ... a future in which democracy will be fully participatory, in which no Ecuadorean will be alienated from national life, in which there will be no youths without jobs, in which there is no arbitrary authority, and in which everyone, absolutely everyone, will permanently have access to culture.

This is not an unattainable utopia. The vigorous struggle that you and I have waged together for 30 months against the most overwhelming series of internal and external problems -- which I am not going to enumerate -- only proves that with the help of God, the protection of the Constitution, and our unwavering solidarity, no one and nothing can defeat us.

However, the frank recognition [words indistinct] and much less opposition to progress. It is, as I said, [words indistinct]. That is why there is no better site than this academy and there is no better inspiration than the wise words of the commander general about collective progress to announce something that involves the solution of the country's greatest social problem. [Words indistinct] today propose to the legislative branch the most revolutionary law of this century, the law that will open hundreds of thousands of jobs, the law that will make democratic the ownership of the capital of the enterprises. What else have I asked as a private citizen, as a legislator, and now as a constitutional president than to... [end recording; station interrupts recording]

In conclusion, President Febres Cordero said that the Army will not lend itself to perverse objectives to destroy the country's constitutional system.

Speech Analysis, Asanza Remarks

PA282041 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] During the speech that he delivered on the occasion of the 158th anniversary of the Battle of Tarqui and Army Day during which he referred to the behavior of the Army in regard to the Taura incidents, President Leon Febres Cordero stated with restrained emotion: My tribute is to those who really never moved away from us; those who, making the supreme sacrifice, challenged us to do our utmost in facing our responsibilities and those who inspire and motivate us by setting a noble example.

He stressed the speech by General Jorge Asanza, commanding general of the Army, stating: He has said that the Army will never lend itself to serving illegitimate interests. He has emphasized that the Army will watch over te maintenance of the Constitution. He has not been afraid to analyze with characteristic intelligence and integrity the colossal nonsense by the traitor [antipatria] with regard to the nonexistent politicalization of the Armed Forces.

Febres Cordero said that yesterday was the day of this essential branch of the Armed Forces, shaped by sacrifice, stimulated by honor, sanctified by the example of heroic victims, led by the rectitude of its chiefs, guided by the training of its officers, and strengthened by the strict fulfillment of duty that characterizes its soldiers.

For his part, Gen Jorge Asanza, commanding general of the Army and chief of the Armed Forces Joint Command, described the Taura incidents as criminal acts when he stated that among military men there must be a categorical differentiation between such acts and combat actions, no matter how bloody and dramatic.

The Army will not lend itself for illegitimate ends. The Ecuadoran Army will never permit a break in the democratic system, Gen Asanza said during the military ceremony in the Eloy Alfaro Military Academy on the occasion of Army Day.

[Begin Asanza recording] All the military regulations and codes throughout history have given a predominant place to discipline. They stress it as a characteristic virtue, and as the main obligation of all military men, placing the duty of obedience to superiors above any other consideration. Nevertheless, as could not but occur, the development of current societies and modern man's access to higher levels of knowledge, culture, and dignity have been producing in the military men of the Western countries an increasingly marked tendency towards a variation in the concept of discipline, incorporating into it a greater degree of individual responsibility and personal initiative. The principle of mutual responsibility has been established. This principle has been extended to all levels of the military hierarchy. A general axiom has been laid down, establishing that all subordinates who carry out an illegitimate or criminal order must fully share responsibility with the superior who gave them the order.

It is important to stress that in the [words indistinct] that military men of the entire world are obliged to assume, one of the most valuable, rational, and coherent aspects of such an attitude is precisely the establishment of a categorical differentiation between combat actions, no matter how bloody or dramatic, and the acts of pure criminality whose shameful and [words indistinct] nature cannot be distorted by the simple fact that their perpetrators, accomplices, or concealers are wearing a specific uniform. Whatever its color, such a uniform will never be honored or [words indistinct] by those acts that have little to do with military honor and much to do with fanaticism, hatred, rivalry, or barbarity. [end recording]

IGLESIAS OFF TO CUBA, SAYS CONTADORA WILL MEET

PY041651 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias this morning went to the Government Palace. Iglesias is leaving for Cuba this afternoon heading an Uruguayan delegation made up of politicians and businessmen.

Iglesias also confirmed that the foreign ministers of the Contadora Group, with the exception of Panama, and the Contadora Support Group will meet on 11 March in Montevideo for approximately 2 days. The issues to be discussed are related to the Central American problem, the foreign debt, and other issues related to ALADI. He added that perhaps the meetings could be held at Anchorena, the presidential ranch in the Colonia Department.

Delegation Leaves for Havana

PY050159 Paris AFP in Spanish 0134 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Montevideo, 4 Mar (AFP) -- Uruguayan Foreign Minister Enrique Iglesias departed this afternoon for Cuba, where he will carry out a 4-day official visit.

The minister is traveling in the company of a delegation that includes Senators Jorge Battle and Dardo Ortiz, Deputy Gonzalo Carambula, and a group of economic advisers and private businessmen.

During his stay in Havana, Iglesias will meet with Fidel Castro, the head of the Cuban Government, Vice President Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, and Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, among other officials.

The Uruguayan and Cuban officials will discuss the possibility of increasing bilateral trade relations. As a first step in this direction they will sign an economic, scientific, and technical cooperation agreement.

Uruguay resumed diplomatic relations with Cuba in March 1985, when Julio Sanguinetti, a civilian president, took power. Sanguinetti revoked the resolution to cut ties with the Caribbean island in 1964.

PRESIDENT LUSINCHI DEFENDS DEBT RENEGOTIATION

PA040434 Paris AFP in Spanish 0120 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Caracas, 2 Mar (AFP) -- Today, in an attempt to justify the agreements reached Friday with Venezuela's creditor banks, President Jaime Lusinchi affirmed that Venezuela remained at all times within the framework of Latin American solidarity.

Lusinchi explained that the contingency clause was maintained in the new agreements. This clause was resorted to in February 1986 after the first renegotiation agreement to start new negotiations in view of the fall in oil prices.

In a message to Congress, which resumed ordinary sessions today, the president answered criticism from several sources, among them former President Carlos Andres Perez, that Venezuela should have waited to see what would happen after Brazil announced its 3-month moratorium on interest payments on its debt.

In the last few days, when the agreement was already well along the way (...) [AFP ellipsis] the Argentine and Brazilian situations reached a crisis. We called their respective presidents to express our solidarity and also to obtain current information on their situations. Both (presidents) told us they were negotiating and that they would continue to negotiate, he revealed. He added that both countries have continued to negotiate and that Venezuela needed to consult in order to act accordingly.

The president said that his government decided to sign the agreements with the Banking Advisory Committee because he is convinced that Venezuela's case is a very special one, because we have a very vulnerable economic structure and because the flow of our trade also has very particular characteristics.

Lusinchi reiterated that the conditions obtained were satisfactory and exceptional for both Venezuela and the debtor [as received] countries. He particularly emphasized the reduction of the spread by 7/8 percent over the LIBOR [London Interbank Offering Rate].

The important aspect is that the 7/8 rate over LIBOR is an index for our negotiations and that it will save us around $50 million this year. It differs by half a point, which is a lot for international loans, and is less than the average margin when the debt was contracted, he said.

It was revealed today in New York that the agreement with Venezuela includes the refinancing of $20.34 billion.

Lusinchi also emphasized the postponement of payments for $6 billion regarding the original refinancing agreement. The president added that the terms are being extended to 14 years and, more importantly, the financial flow to Venezuela is being reopened and the contingency clause -- the importance of which has been demonstrated -- is finally being implemented.

Regarding the criticism, Lusinchi said that with all due respect he would like to ask some people what they said when they were in power to oppose the large and disorderly borrowing which led us into the crisis. This was a clear allusion to former Christian Democratic presidents and to Carlos Andres Perez himself.

To them I say right off that there will be no more indebtedness because even though we feel that extraordinary resources are necessary for the development of the country, we will not incur any more debts over 50 percent of the interest plus the capital paid during our period of government.

I insist that our priority is development, and I reiterate that no development can take place based on lies or noncompliance with our commitments.

He affirmed that no country can alllow itself such behavior, and those who made that assertion have for a long time been silent about the debts of some countries that advise others to not pay but at the same time refinance their own debts in a timely and very formal fashion.

Finance Minister Manuel Azpurua said that Venezuela will pay $270 million this year toward the refinanced debt and an additional $700 million toward the nonstructured debt.

Azpurua said that the most important thing is for Venezuela to be able to return as soon as possible to the financial market and to the capital markets in a normal and voluntary manner.

He revealed that contacts are being maintained to obtain financial resources for Venezuela in light of Friday's [27 February] agreements in New York and that he would attempt to reestablish the flow of capital into Venezuela, not only from international banks but also from foreign investors and from Venezuelan resources abroad.

Before the Venezuelan economic crisis on 18 February 1983, there was a flight of capital equivalent to $30 billion, according to analysts.

The minister also revealed plans regarding loans for the aluminum and steel industries to be made by suppliers and guaranteed by the bilateral export agencies. He added that it will probably be possible to obtain the support of several financial institutions.

HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS PROTEST ECONOMIC POLICY

PA050030 Paris AFP in Spanish 0401 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Mexico City 3 Mar -- For Mexican independent trade unions, this was a historic day, according to union leaders. The leaders were describing the occupation of the main plaza in Mexico City by hundreds of thousands of workers who were protesting the government's economic policy and supporting the electricians who have been on strike since 27 February.

Representatives from all the unions not included in the pro-government trade unions marched for over 3 hours demanding an end to the payment of the foreign debt and salary increases, as well as supporting the Mexican Trade Union of Electricians (SME).

The demonstrators completely occupied the Plaza de la Constitucion, in front of the National Palace. Such a large demonstration had not been seen -- except those organized by the government -- since 1938, when President Lazaro Cardenas nationalized petroleum.

The police, who discreetly observed the demonstration, estimated that there were over 180,000 demonstrators, while the organizers claimed there were over 300,000 demonstrators.

For the first time, workers and university students -- who recently staged a 17-day strike -- marched together. The University Students Coordination Board (CEU) was continuously cheered by the electricians. The march was called by the SME and the Trade Union Agreement Board (which groups all the independent unions, most of them led by leftists) in view of the refusal by the enterprise to negotiate with the electricians, and the possibility that the strike might be declared illegal by the courts.

In downtown Mexico City loud sounds filled the air as thousands of demonstrators shouted slogans against the government's economic policy. They chanted slogans such as: The debt amounts to billions, let the crooked politicians pay for it; The debt does not belong to the people, the people did not ask for it; Where is the money, the PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party) spent it. Thousands of posters demanded a 230-percent emergency salary increase and an end to the hunger we Mexicans are enduring.

In the midst of unanimous shouts of approval, 3 March was declared Workers' Solidarity Day. Dozens of unions, particularly the university students, staged staggered strikes or 24-hour strikes to support the strikers. The students announced that if the electricians do not obtain a 230-percent emergency salary increase, they will bring the University of Mexico to a standstill on Friday [6 March].

Men and women, many of them carrying young children, belonging to the SME, retired workers, members of neighborhood organizations, students, teachers, government workers, delegations from the interior of the country, and members of various unions also observed 1 minute of silence in memory of three strikebreakers who died for doing jobs they were not trained for doing.

LEFTIST PARTIES URGE DEBT PAYMENT SUSPENSION

PA031810 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 26 Feb 87 p 4

[Article by Ubaldo Diaz]

[Text] Yesterday, the parties that are now merging, PSUM [United Socialist Party of Mexico], PRT [Workers Revolutionary Party], PMT [Mexican Workers Party], and UIC [Leftist Communist Party], issued a communique stating that Mexico should follow Brazil's steps and suspend servicing the foreign debt, following a policy of a debtors bloc, similar to the lender countries bloc. The plans for development and employment for millions of Mexicans cannot be canceled for they have suffered severe economic problems for 4 years.

The lending countries have formed a bloc to force the debtors to service the debt and also the principal. Faced with this attitude, Latin Americans should unite to negotiate better terms, based on decent, fair interest rates, the group of leftist parties added.

The path to follow, after learning of the positions adopted by Brazil, Peru, and possibly Argentina, is one of unity, acting as a bloc, not negotiating unilaterally as the Mexican Government has insisted on doing. One cannot act as a strikebreaker, nor continue handing over our countries' resources, the document states.

Countries acting individually simply put themselves in a weak position, and the large banks from the highly developed countries have their own way. The document says that for this reason the negotiations of Latin American countries cannot be separated. The Brazilian case should give new alternatives to Latin American countries.

Mexico is the best example of the futility in following IMF requirements, because Mexico continues giving away its foreign exchange. Our countries' domestic conditions are becoming increasingly urgent. Only a handful of technocrats feel that the national economy has improved and dare to say that it would have been worse for the workers if Mexico declared a unilateral moratorium, the document added.

It also states that one of the great tragedies that the country is experiencing is the deterioration of its international trade, as well as its trade relationship with the rest of the developed countries. This is a terrible and profound phenomena, and all indications are that for the time being there is no way out of this situation, because Mexico always refuses to declare a moratorium on repayment of the foreign debt.

The document insists that the Brazilian case is a magnificent example that proves how the Mexican Government has acted illogically by affirming that one has to grow in order to pay. The result has been an inflationary situation in which there is not enough revenue to continue making the payments, and doing so means greater debt.

The nation is in the same position as Brazil, which had to consider declaraing a moratorium even though the South American country did register growth in the last 4 years; but in the end it was not enough. Mexico has continued to accrue more debt to service the debt. In other words, it continues to fall into the same trap.

The Mexican authorities should realize they cannot continue on this path because in the last 4 years the country has had to pay more than $50 billion and its debt has continued to increase. At no time has it decreased, despite the statements of the government officials, the document adds.

MEXICO TO SIGN $3.5 BILLION BRIDGE LOAN

FL042251 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2202 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Upon pointing out that the federal government will implement a forceful economic policy to fight inflation in 1987, Mexican Finance Secretary Gustavo Petricioli reported that 98 percent of the international credit for Mexico has already been approved.

During an interview at the closing of the 13th PRI National Assembly, Petricioli explained that a bridge loan for $3.5 billion from the $7.7 billion agreed on by international organizations and banks will be signed on 20 March.

He said that over the next several weeks, the number of banks signing the loans the country needs to continue promoting development will increase.

Petricioli stressed that the loans negotiated with international banks will allow completion of the goals of President Miguel de la Madrid's economic program, and in this same line, that economic policy will be more forceful in order to fight inflation in 1987.

SEPULVEDA ON C.A. POLITICAL DECISIONS, PEACE

FL042220 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2123 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Mexico Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor has said that there is a great deal of good will among the Latin American countries to conclude the Central American peace process.

Interviewed at the closing of the PRI's 13th National Assembly at the National Auditorium in Mexico City, Sepulveda said that Central American peace continues to be sought through dialogue. This year will be decisive for the Contadora Group's efforts.

He stressed that the Contadora Group is keeping with the goals it set for itself when it was created 4 years ago, and that Mexico's work in this regard has in no way hurt the development of the country's foreign policy.

He said that in the 4 years it has existed, the Contadora Group has prevented war from breaking out in Central America, and that this conflict, which was already foreseen, has been avoided thanks to the peace efforts of the group, made up of Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and Panama.

Sepulveda reported that the negotiations to reach an understanding to pacify the area will continue at a meeting that will be held in Esquipulas, Guatemala, where the five Central Americans will examine the region's current situation.

Upon reaffirming that dialogue is the only way to reach peace in Central America by means of diplomatic process, the foreign secretary said that the stability which is necessary for peace will be attained to the extent that the Central American governments make good political decisions.

COSTA RICA

BOMB FOUND OUTSIDE PRESIDENT ARIAS' HOUSE

PA042031 Paris AFP in Spanish 1943 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] San Jose, 4 Mar (AFP) -- The Costa Rican police are investigating, amid great secrecy, today's discovery of an explosive device outside the residence of President Oscar Arias Sanchez in western San Jose. The device found underneath a vehicle did not explode. The device was apparently thrown at the president's house early this morning. He said that he did not know whether it was something intentional or a joke. The explosive was found underneath a vehicle assigned to the presidential residence.

The police authorities have refused to issue an official report on the incident. Vigilance in Arias' residence was reinforced while the investigations continue.

The president's house, which has minimal police protection, does not have any fences and is located next to one of the busiest streets in western San Jose.

MINISTER SAYS SANDINISTS INFLUENCE TOWER REPORT

PA040438 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] The airport located at Potrero Grande has generated a great deal of controversy. One of the things reported by the Tower Commission is that during the present administration the airport was without vigilance for 2 months. Security Minister Hernan Garron, referring to the operation of this airport where contras supposedly received arms, said that the Tower report was influenced by the Sandinists. He added that prior to those 2 months it was guarded and that after that vigilance was restored with a great number of men.

Security Minister Hernan Garron feels that the outcome of the Tower report on the Iran-contras case has been influenced by the Sandinists. Although he did not elaborate, Garron said that some of the accusations made against Costa Rica as a participant in this case can be blamed on the Sandinists. Garron does not feel that the U.S. media has been influenced on this matter.

EL SALVADOR

REBEL 'COMMUNIQUE' ON ALLEGED U.S. INCURSIONS

PA042030 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Communique issued by the FMLN in El Salvador, dated 27 February 1987]

[Text] Beginning on 12 February and for the next 14 days, a contingent of U.S. troops from the 82d Airborne Division of the U.S. Army conducted military maneuvers in Honduras along the border area close to Morazan Department in El Salvador. U.S. troops even conducted maneuvers 2 km from the border, outside of San Fernando Jurisdiction. U.S. Air Force helicopters repeatedly violated Salvadoran airspace, entering 15 km inside Morazan Department.

On 20 February a U.S. Black Hawk helicopter that came from Honduras strafed the area near the village of Perquin as a group of civilians were receiving humanitarian aid from the International Red Cross Committee. Following the conclusion of the Yankee maneuvers, Honduran soldiers have redoubled their presence in the border area and are making constant incursions into Salvadoran territory, threatening, terrorizing, and even capturing Salvadoran and Honduran civilians.

On 21 February, Honduran forces based in Colomoncagua entered Salvadoran territory in places known as (El Roble Negro) and El Mojon, San Fernando Jurisdiction (Masatalpa) Canton. They captured the following Salvadoran citizens: Evangelista Araya, 62; Antunio Ramos, 34; Jose Ramos, 68; and (Vicenta) Amaya, 67. All were first taken to Colomoncagua. Nothing is known about their whereabouts at present.

On 26 February, Honduran soldiers wearing civilian clothes left from Copado Hill, Honduras; they moved inside Salvadoran territory until they reached a place known as Palo Loco in Morazan Department.

On the border area in Chalatenango Department there are constant incursions by soldiers from the Cobra and Cocoyagua Battalions, stationed in Guarita, Honduras.

On 6 February [date as heard] Cocoyagua Battalion soldiers murdered Miguel Guardado, 40, and Maria Menjivar, 35, in Ojo de Agua Municipality, in Calatenango. They also captured Ana Maria Melgar, Silvia del Carmen Melgar, 7; Eliseo [name indistinct] and Humberto Nunez. All of these people are Salvadorans.

Between 5-8 February, Honduran helicopters entered our territory, landing and disembarking troops in the Jiquilisco Hill sector, Los Pozos canton, Santa Lucia Hill, in La Trinidad Jurisdiction, Chalatenango Department.

Honduran troops also entered our territory in the Arcatao Jurisdiction from La Trinidad, Honduras. On 1 March, four U.S. Chinook helicopters coming from Honduras entered our airspace through La Union Department, overflew the coast of Jucuaran, and continued west.

These terrorist actions carried out by the Honduran Army as part of the military cooperation and the U.S. military maneuvers are taking place within the framework of a profound erosion and political-military weakening of the Duartist dictatorship in El Salvador. The abductions, violation of airspace, and land incursions are part of the Reagan administration's policy of threats and blackmail and of the well-known role of puppets of the Honduran Army and Government, as they are totally at the service of U.S. interests in Central America. This policy has already produced several civilian victims, both Salvadorans and Hondurans. These actions of cooperation between the Honduran and U.S. Armies together with the Duartist Army will lead to a greater confrontation in the border area. We hold the Honduran and U.S. Armies totally responsible for the consequences of these actions.

We urgently call on our Honduran brothers and on the solidarity of the U.S. people to protest this policy of involvement in this war that is so alien to the Honduran people's interests, such as the war of aggression against Nicaragua, in which they are already involved, and which has only brought suffering and economic losses to the Honduran people.

We issue a call to political parties, unions, student associations, and to the Honduran people in general to take action and express their rejection of and opposition to this warmongering adventure in which they need not get involved, and which can have unpredictable consequences.

[Signed] FMLN
El Salvador, 27 February 1987

FMLN CHALLENGES LUIS HERRERA CAMPINS ON RIGHTS

PA050100 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Communique issued by the FMLN General Command in El Salvador dated March 1987]

[Text] The FMLN informs the Salvadoran people and the national and international press that:

1. We have learned of the concern expressed by former Venezuelan President Dr Luis Herrera Campins, current secretary general of Christian Democratic international organization, over the current status of the mayors of Napoleon Duarte's government who are being held prisoner by the FMLN.

2. The captive mayors are part of the counterinsurgency plans designed and directed by U.S. advisers. The mayors are linked, not to any governmental structure, but to the war machinery. Their primary mission is to train members of the paramilitary organization called civil defense. This makes them active elements in the counterinsurgency war plan.

3. Aside from Dr Herrera Campins' ideological links to the Napoleon Duarte government, which prompted him to send Venezuelan military advisers to our country during his presidential term, we assume that his interest in the status of the captive mayors is prompted by humanitarian feelings. In this regard, we also assume that his concern encompasses all violations of human rights in El Salvador.

Therefore, the FMLN proposes the following to Dr Luis Herrera Campins:

1. That he publicly appeal to Napoleon Duarte's Christian Democratic government to clarify the status of 39 people arrested by the government who have disappeared. Their names are on a list which Napoleon Duarte has in his possession, but he has given no explanation [of their fate], despite our demands during the negotiations for [the exchange of prisoners for] Colonel Omar Napoleon Avalos.

2. That Dr Herrera Campins make a public appeal to Napoleon Duarte's Christian Democratic government to release over 1,000 political prisoners who are crowded into the regime's jails and who are not FMLN fighters but rather workers, labor union members, civilian residents of areas of conflict, members of humanitarian organizations, and others.

3. As far as we are concerned, we promise to release the captive mayors at the exact moment when Dr Herrera Campins -- with the same fervor with which he spoke in favor of the mayors -- publicly calls for the defense of the human rights of the political prisoners and missing people, no matter what Napoleon Duarte government's answer may be.

[Signed] General Command of the FMLN, El Salvador, March 1987

GUATEMALA

CEREZO RETURNS FROM 'SUCCESSFUL' S. AMERICAN TOUR

PA050101 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo resumed his functions at 1930 local time last night when the presidential aircraft landed at a Guatemalan Air Force base. Through his spokesman Julio Santos, the president told newsmen convened early in the day that he would make remarks during a press conference tomorrow.

Santos told newsmen that the president is satisfied with his trip to four South American countries. The tour has been described as successful because of its political and economic achievements.

Ricardo Gomez, president of the Guatemalan Congress, who accompanied the president on his tour, told newsmen that Cerezo's meeting with Brazilian President Jose Sarney was not official but that it constituted a deference for the Guatemalan president and people on the part of Brazil.

Gomez also said that the neutrality policy fostered by Cerezo enjoys international acceptance. Cerezo received full support during his tour through four South American countries. A solution for the regional conflict is being sought. Gomez also added that the active neutrality has been well understood and that the presidents of the four countries visited understand the Guatemalan Government's peace effort.

In addition, Gomez told reporters that during his tour through South America he concluded important parliamentary cooperation agreements hinged particularly on the exchange of experiences that will be useful in the country's legislative activities.

Economy Minister Elizardo Sosa said that during the tour through South America accompanying Cerezo he established close friendship and commercial ties with the countries visited. He added, however, that regrettably there are no major commercial possibilities.

ORPA STAGES ACTIONS; ARMY INVESTIGATING

PA041859 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms, ORPA, today reported that it carried out (?20) combat actions, ambushes, and harassments in the period from 9 October 1986 to 24 January. According to a communique clandestinely sent to the news media, those actions were staged by the ORPA's Commander Javier Tambriz Front in Suchitepequez and Chimaltenango Departments. It also said that the Army suffered casualties in most of the actions.

Meanwhile, the Army is investigating any possible relationship between violent acts in the past few days and clandestine groups which carry out terrorism, Defense Minister General Hector Gramajo said today. [passage omitted]

HONDURAS

EDITORIAL ON TOWER REPORT IMPLICATIONS

PA041809 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 3 Mar 87 p 6

[Editorial: "The Tower Report and Honduras' Case"]

[Text] We are still not familiar with the entire Tower report because the U.S. media and the international news agencies have only published parts of it. Therefore, it is quite risky to draw definitive conclusions about it at this time.

It is also true that according to some experts on the subject, the Tower report -- which summarizes the investigation on the Iran-contra scandal and its implications at the presidential and National Security Council levels; and, in Central America, also at the presidential and high-ranking military levels -- seems to be just the tip of the "iceberg" [preceding word in English] of a very juicy matter that will be revealed during the remaining 22 months of the Reagan administration.

Honduras' name is everywhere, even in the very sparse information obtained from the Tower report. Undoubtedly, this is because of the role U.S. policy has assigned our country regarding Central America, particularly concerning Sandinist Nicaragua. The Honduran Government has submitted to this policy.

On the subject of Honduras, it is easy to point out that foreign policy is made by the president of the Republic; it is therefore his exclusive responsibility. However, this is not precisely the truth, and this will become apparent if the facts are analyzed as they should be.

In Honduras, as we all know, there are two principal sources of power: military and civilian -- unfortunately, in that order of priority. The foreign policy of any country responds to its own power structure, the interests of those who exert power, and the needs and prospects of the state for its defense and or expansion and influence.

In Honduras, local interests have been more or less outlined during this period of time, and do not necessarily correspond with national interests, the interests of the Honduran state. It is very difficult to define those interests because there is no national plan to use as a reference point. Therefore, what some may see as national interests are, more than anything else, the interests of specific power centers, which are logically weak and vulnerable to more powerful national or hegemonic interests. [sentence as published]

The preceding is not at all an excuse for those in charge of drafting Honduran foreign policy or for those who have carried it out. What does stand out, and must be emphasized, is that the president of the Republic has the least control of this policy. Actually, it is the know-it-all [doctores], at the Foreign Secretariat who have drafted foreign policy in the past few years, as well as everything linked to military power and U.S. interests.

The results of this policy are obvious, and we still do not know how deep this sea will be. The country has been involved in a scandal that it cannot get out of for the time being. The tendency will thus be to search for a way to manipulate Honduran public opinion and to silence all criticism and analysis of the subject, something that has deep repercussions for the country and the nation's future. The first signs of this are already appearing.

The Tower report and the changes it caused at the White House -- the dismissal of Chief of Staff Donald Regan, for example -- show that the Reagan administration itself has begun a process of foreign policy changes. Regarding us, the Hondurans, the failure of the "contras" and the end of in extremis support by the United States seems assured.

The "contra" problem is actually our problem now because alternatives to the events presently occurring were never discussed. Mr Elliott Abrams, who is directly in charge of this Reagan administration plan comes in for harsh questioning in the report, according to what has been published in the United States.

Among the charges made against him regarding alleged illegal dealings in Central America are -- according to an AFP item Sunday -- his involvement "in a plan for Israel to send between 15 to 20 Spanish-speaking instructors to the contras in combination with the sale to Honduras of Israeli Kfir combat planes."

General Walter Lopez Reyes, retired, former chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, has also shown another tip of the "iceberg" [preceding word in English] regarding the arms trafficking and other business involved in the handling of the contras. Rottenness is beginning to pollute the environment and this is just the beginning.

In Costa Rica, the National Congress is about to conduct an investigation, taking a serious initiative in accordance with the Tower report. Will the same happen in Honduras? Possibly not. Here, what is most probable is that our democracy will work backwards, with the stick ready to hit whoever raises his head to demand the truth and punishment for those responsible for the disaster.

DEPUTY URGES CONTRA FUNDS HANDLING INQUIRY

PA041557 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 3 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] Tegucigalpa -- Gustavo Gomez Santos, deputy chief of the Liberal legislative bloc, said yesterday that the Honduran Armed Forces should appoint a special commission to investigate whether high-ranking officers are involved in the handling of U.S. funds for the contras.

The U.S. Tower commission which investigated, among other things, the handling of funds for the anti-Sandinist rebels based in Honduras, concluded that Honduran military men participated in the delivery of the funds.

Gustavo Gomez Santos said that as commander in chief of the Armed Forces, President Jose Azcona Hoyo "could order an investigation" of this matter.

The deputy said that "the Armed Forces should investigate whether some of its members are involved in handling those funds."

He said that the National Congress cannot intervene in this matter "because U.S. funds, not national funds, are involved."

DEPUTY CALLS FOR INVESTIGATION OF AZCONA

PA042100 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Excerpt] Honduran Deputy Efrain Reconco Murillo has said that President Jose Simon Azcona Hoyo must be investigated. The National Congress may summon the president for not using the funds from the surplus of the sale of oil in accordance with the rules. The report by the Economy Commission of Congress which criticized the work done by the Ministry of Economy and Commerce stated that the government spent 86 million lempiras from the surplus of the sale of oil derivatives and coffee exports without the permission of the National Congress.

Deputy Reconco Murillo added that the use of those funds was unconstitutional and all deputies must reject this. He said that the president should be summoned by the National Congress for violating the Constitution. Reconco Murillo noted that the National Congress may adopt that action because the president is a public employee. If the president has violated the Constitution by mispending those funds without previous consultation with the National Congress, he should be summoned. He said that this is not a matter of corruption but rather of misspending funds and an erroneous implementation of state policies through the government. As the Constitution states, the president must first ask the National Congress before using funds that were not included in the budget. The president has failed to do this, he noted. [passage omitted]

FUTH REPORTEDLY TRYING TO CREATE UNREST

PA042055 Tegucigalpa Radio Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Leftist sectors are promoting unrest. The demonstration organized by the FUTH [United Federation of Honduran Workers] for 5 March is just a leftist plan to cause unrest in the country. According to the FUTH work plan, the purpose of the demonstration is to try to expel the contras and the U.S. troops stationed in the country.

The content of a document entitled "Campaign for Dignity, National Sovereignty, and Peace in Central America" was made known. The document reveals the organized way the leftist sectors are working to destabilize the current government.

The objective sought in Thursday's demonstration is to reach an agreement with people's organizations in order to promote the campaign for dignity and national sovereignty based on the motion by Nationalist Deputy (Nicolas Cruz Torres). However, the document noted that the chief objective is to promote a large demonstration in which all the sectors of the country participate in order to reach a national consensus to get the contras and U.S. troops expelled from the country.

Organizing the demonstration are the People's Organizations Coordinating Committee, the National Confederation of Rural Workers, and the FUTH. The plan which these organizations will implement on Thursday include preparing the slogans that will be chanted during the demonstration.

NICARAGUA

SOVIET PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION ARRIVES ON VISIT

Nunez Greets at Airport

PA042212 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 3 Mar 87 p 5

[Text] Commander Carlos Nunez, president of the National Assembly, yesterday labeled the arrival in the country of an important mission of Soviet parliament members as "an expression of the interest of the USSR to continue strengthening the bonds of cooperation at all levels with Nicaragua."

Nunez met the visitors at the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport and talked with them at the assembly. He praised Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's recent initiative to reduce the number of medium-range missiles stationed in Europe. He emphasized Nicaragua's hope that the proposal will receive a positive answer on the part of the United States.

"We feel that the proposal is a very constructive one and it deserves a practical response for the benefit of all humanity," said the leader during the meeting with the Soviet delegates.

The delegation, headed by Boris Yeltsin, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, is composed of other high-ranking officials such as Vladimir Poletskov, member of the Supreme Soviet Housing Commission; Ana Shalapakova, member of the Supreme Soviet Youth Commission; and Gennadiy Yagodin, USSR Supreme Soviet member.

Upon arriving this morning in Managua, Boris Yeltsin explained the content of the latest Soviet initiative on disarmament. He labeled it as "a new step to ease international tensions within the framework of our program for the total elimination of nuclear weapons by the year 2000."

He reiterated that Moscow is prepared to sign an agreement without prior conditions in order to gradually eliminate strategic missiles. This topic is also linked to the ban on the deployment of weapons in outer space. The Soviet leader trusted that Washington would answer this proposal in the next 24 hours.

Regarding the situation in Nicaragua, Yeltsin stressed the revolution's institutional progress. He said "The first democratic Constitution in its history attests to the Nicaraguans' unyielding commitment to follow the path of revolutionary renewal."

A Halt to U.S. War [subhead]

He strongly condemned the U.S. plans of intervention and demanded "an end to its criminal policy of state terrorism" and that it strive for a political and just resolution of the conflict. He added that the establishement of the Central American parliament is very important in this effort.

Commenting on the importance of the mission which the Soviet delegation is conducting in Managua, Commander Nunez said that it is special because of the ties that exist between the two parliaments and because of the high status of the head of the delegation. This is the highest-level Soviet delegation that has visited Nicaragua to date.

Commander Nunez also stressed Boris Yeltsin's personal characteristics, which can be seen in his interest in learning the details of the situation in Nicaragua. Yesterday, the Soviet leader showed this interest during a tour of the capital.

A Special Tour [subhead]

Yeltsin did not want to say farewell to the National Assembly president after the meeting ended without visiting the installations which are being built in the future Olof Palme Convention Center. The 77th IPU meeting is scheduled to meet there.

The Soviet delegation watched hundreds of workers who are working day and night on this project in order to complete the building before April. Later, they walked on Managua's streets. They were interested in the history of the streets and the scars of the 1972 earthquake.

The presence of the Soviet visitors outside the Carlos Aguero Military School, the entrances of banks, and gas stations caught the people's attention. They stopped to watch this unique walking tour which ended inside the El Redentor supermarket in front of the Interior Ministry's Silvio Mayorga Building.

Yeltsin and his retinue visited the interior of the supermarket. They asked about supplies and the prices of staple products.

Today, the Soviet delegation will attend a "Face the People" program in a Matagalpa UPE [State Production Unit]. They will also learn about the general situation in Region No 3.

Visits Matagalpa

PA042325 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 4 Mar 87 p 5

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by Boris Yeltsin visited the Sebaco Valley in Matagalpa. Yeltsin said: "Yes, people's power has existed in Nicaragua during the past 7 years and in the Soviet Union for the past 70 years... [ellipsis as published]. We also were victimized by the imperialist aggression, isolated, harassed. We struggled without friends, without the help of other socialist countries. Despite this, the people won over the counterrevolution and foreign intervention. With the same certainty, we Soviets are sure you will evict the contras from your territory. The revolution will win and the people will live in liberty and peace." he added: "You are supported by many, including the Soviet Union."

The leader was happy about the crowd's spontaneous cheers and applause. He raised his fist at the shout "They will not pass." In Russian, he recited a verse of Ruben Dario and stressed the deep satisfaction of the Soviet Government and people "because of your intensive and heroic work and the friendship uniting the two peoples."

Followed by the other members of the delegation, Yeltsin then visited the "Juan Martinez" Rural Chidren's Service [Servicio Infantil Rural], SIR, which takes care of 97 peasant children at the UPE [State Production Unit]. The mission members also visited the "Maurice Deneuve" housing project, where 23 homes are being built with Swiss financing.

At the La Fundadora facilities, Yeltsin spoke with workers and mechanics in charge of the coffee pulping machine, who were at work. He also walked to the storehouse where hundreds of bags are ready to be taken to the processing plant.

The Soviet mission's trip to Matagalpa in the company of President Daniel Ortega, Minister Jaime Wheelock, and Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto began early in the morning with a visit to the Sebaco Valley agricultural project, where the mission observed the hard work that today helps in the production of 36,000 tons of basic grains for both domestic consumption and export.

The official Soviet visitors showed special interest in production methods, machinery, and technical training in this project, where conservation and transportation equipment is still required to process products and keep them fresh.

USSR's YELTSIN, DIAZ EXCHANGE 'BITTER WORDS'

PA041921 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1816 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Managua, 4 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- A Nicaraguan political opposition leader and the chief of a Soviet parliamentary delegation today exchanged bitter words about Soviet aid to the Sandinist government.

The Soviet delegation, which has been visiting this capital for the past 3 days, held a 1-hour meeting today with Nicaraguan socialist, liberal, Social Christian, and conservative leaders, all of whom are in the legislative opposition.

Soviet Deputy Boris Yeltsin, chief of the delegation, urged the opposition parties "not to follow the Soviet model of society or the U.S. system."

Social Christian leader Mauricio Diaz replied that the internal political opposition valued the Soviet aid but that it believes that it "should be without conditions."

This comment caused an immediate reaction in Boris Yeltsin who said he "felt offended" by the Social Christian politician's words.

"We are not inviting you to follow either the Soviet or the U.S. path because you have your own sui generis revolutionary path," the Soviet deputy replied.

Mauricio Diaz insisted that "Soviet support with conditions for Nicaragua will not contribute to the country's democratization."

The politician argued that no power "supports any government without political interests at stake." He was referring to Moscow's economic and military aid to the Sandinists.

Boris Yeltsin replied that the aid to Nicaragua is "without strings attached" and that it is prompted by solidarity with the Nicaraguan people."

"We, the Soviets, support a unique model in Nicaragua, not a copy of the Soviet model, because your revolution is nationalist and democratic," Yeltsin noted.

He told the opposition deputies that the government of Mikhail Gorbachev is not interested in "imposing an ideological system or a social regime" in particular, such as socialism, in Nicaragua.

The Social Democratic deputy stated that without Soviet aid to the Sandinist government, the contras would already be in Nicaragua."

The USSR provides Nicaragua with 90 percent of its oil and an undisclosed amount of weapons. Also, 50 percent of Nicaragua's imports come from the socialist countries by means of CEMA.

The press was able to witness part of the dialogue between the opposition and Soviet deputies, which was held in a hall of the Legislative Assembly. However, members of the press were later asked to withdraw.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

PA031837 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Feb 87 p 5

[Text] Documents were signed yesterday during the preparatory meeting of the joint Bulgaria-Nicaragua Commission within the framework of scientific-technical cooperation between the two governments. Jose Angel Buitrago, the deputy foreign cooperation minister, and Spas Georgiev, deputy minister of foreign trade of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, participated in the meeting.

Deputy Minister Buitrago said that the Nicaraguan Government and people acknowledge the positive impact on the economic and social development of our country resulting from the cooperation extended by the Bulgarian people and government.

The signing of these documents involves cooperation and the implementation of commercial financial projects, and scientific-technical exchange for 1987-1988, which will be consolidated in the joint commission meeting slated for mid-year.

The delegation of the sister Republic of Bulgaria has been in our country since 24 February to discuss the projects in which it will help. The Bulgarian delegation, which is headed by Comrade Georgiev, will return to Bulgaria today.

BARRICADA REPORTS ON LA PRENSA NEWS CONFERENCE

PA042250 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 3 Mar 87 p 5

[Text] Violeta Barrios, the widow of murdered Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal, yesterday protested the suspension of LA PRENSA's publications ordered 8 months ago by the Interior Ministry's [MINT] media directorate.

During a news conference in which she announced that yesterday LA PRENSA completed 61 years of existence, Dona Violeta said that the Nicaraguan people have no freedom of expression because her newspaper is closed.

Violeta also denied the charges on which the MINT's media directorate based its decision to suspend the newspaper; its financial links with PRODEMCA [Pro Central America's Democratic Forces] and the CIA; the role of its board of directors in "lobbying" [preceding word in English] for the approval of Reagan's $100 million; and the daily's submissiveness to the policy of aggression against Nicaragua launched by the Reagan administration since 1981.

Violeta Barrios noted that those accusations -- which have been widely published in the international media -- have been very harmful to LA PRENSA. She described the Sandinist government as a "liar," "totalitarian," and "a dictatorship which is worse than the previous one."

Violeta Chamorro tried to downplay the fact that her son Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, LA PRENSA's former codirector, has been appointed a member of the UNO [Nicaraguan Opposition Unity], which is the political facade of the contras headed by former Somozist Colonel Enrique Bermudez, by saying that this appointment has nothing to do with LA PRENSA. "He can do whatever he wants; he is not a child, he is 35 years old."

On several occasions she said that the Sandinist government has not replied to several requests to reopen the newspaper made by its owners.

It may be recalled that in the Chicago proposal, presented in that city by President Daniel Ortega, the Nicaragua Government offered to reconsider the closure of LA PRENSA if its owners stay away from the Reagan administration's policy of aggression.

The owners of the newspaper never replied to the proposal.

EXILE OPPOSITION GROUP ISSUES DOCUMENT ON MEETINGS

PA280032 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 23 Feb 87 p 45

[Paid advertisement by the Union Committee of Nicaraguan Workers and Peasants in Exile, CSOCANE: capitalized passages published in boldface]

[Text] ASSEMBLY OF NICARAGUANS FOR UNITY AND HOPE [subhead]

I. INTRODUCTION

The Nicaraguan people and its professional and labor organizations held the first "Assembly of Nicaraguans for unity and hope" on 21 and 22 February in Ciudad Quesada, Costa Rica. The participants unanimously approved the following text as the meeting's official document, which will be published in foreign languages.

The Nicaraguan people's assembly for unity and hope presents to the international public a history of the social crisis afflicting our people and proposes the basic programmatic guidelines necessary for the nation's democratization and unity. Without any doubt, we can assert, that the entire nation has suffered the attacks of Soviet expansionism. Those attacks consist of a profound violation of the rights of all social levels, organization, and institutions in the country's life.

The assembly feels that the following rights have been violated:

1. RIGHT TO PROPERTY: During the past few years, the FSLN has launched an aggressive expropriation policy, which is all-encompassing and powerful. This policy is aimed at consolidating the state's power and concentrating the country's most productive assets under a party system, thus strangling any attempt of political opposition to Marxism by depriving the adversary of his own means.

2. RIGHT TO FREE TRADE: The regime has established control over domestic trade in order to control the prices of agricultural and industrial products. This policy has been used to make peasants and merchants poorer in order to control the population through hunger. It is also being used to dismantle the labor and professional movements.

3. RIGHT TO INFORMATION AND RESEARCH: The Stalinist nomenklatura has closed all the radio, press, and television sources and banned authorizations for social research work, such as surveys and censuses. This policy is aimed at silencing or neutralizing even individual opinions.

4. RELIGIOUS RIGHTS: We have noted with despair that the Catholic Church and other Christian denominations have been persecuted, their churches burned, and their bishops expelled and harassed. Those actions include the murder of clergymen and religious leaders and the closing of Catholic public and educational means of expression in order to silence any independent opinion.

5. POLITICAL RIGHTS: Freedom of thought and expression and political organization have been restricted in Nicaragua while political parties and organizations have been given a limited and parasite status, as long as they will project an image abroad that will favor the strategies of communism.

6. LABOR RIGHTS: During the past few years, labor movements have been persecuted through their leaders, who have been forced to seek refuge in neighboring countries. Those who remained in the country have been murdered or sent to jail. All those attacks against the labor sector were carried out in order to have a labor and professional sector in Nicaragua that will contribute to giving the Marxist dictatorship an image of legitimacy and to maintain the illusion in Nicaragua that such rights exist within the framework of restricted legitimacy. That illusion is created by Sandinism whenever it wants to give the false impression that it promotes a policy of negotiation.

7. HUMAN RIGHTS: The bureaucratic dictatorship that today rules, but not governs, Nicaragua has implemented the most brutual and severe repressive policy against the Nicaraguan population. In this hallucinogenic gathering of witches [aquelarre alucinate], the peasants, who constitute half of the Nicaraguan population, have been concentrated in what the Marxists call "territorial regrouping poles," which are really concentration camps, where the population is held hostage of the FSLN's terrorist policy. There, the peasant population is forced to participate in the military field, having to sacrifice in defense of the transnational Marxist nomenklatura. In this regard, we must add that workers have received similar treatment, as they are subject to food controls by means of a food rationing card which is aimed at manipulating and controlling the population through hunger. The measures were aimed at destroying the unions, which was only possible with the complicity of a pink unionism [sindicalismo rosado] that pretended to be part of the opposition in Nicaragua in order to suppress and eliminate the labor sector's legitimate demands.

8. Right to existence of Indian minorities.

9. Forced labor without pay.

10. Suspension of parental authority.

11. Conscription of youths who must sacrifice defending a warmongering partisan policy.

II. Aggression Against Neighboring Countries for Intimidation [subhead]

The reiterated and multiple violation of human rights has resulted in the implementation of a totalitarian police dictatorship that has impoverished the country and has launched and forced the population to engage in a domestic civil war that sacrifices the youth to comply with the USSR's military strategy in Central America.

In view of this situation, "the assembly for unity and hope" has approved the following topics guiding the actions and the position of the labor sector in the antitotalitarian struggle.

TOPIC 1

The Christian churches, particularly the Catholic Church, embody Christian humanism, which is the crucible in which our nationality is based, countering Marxist internationalism and Soviet hegemonism.

TOPIC 2

Soviet Marxism and hegemonism have declared a state of war against the Nicaraguan nation, which has chosen the path of self-defense.

TOPIC 3

The nation's self-defense path to face Soviet hegemony in Nicaragua stresses the need to struggle for the basic democratic aspirations so that those aspirations will be the foundation for the struggle for democracy, national independence, and the labor sector's rights. Those basic aspirations are:

1. Nicaraguans have full property rights and therefore properties cannot be considered illegal or be the cause for ideological rejection or civil death [muerte civil].

2. Within the country's boundaries, and in accordance with its customs laws, Nicaraguans are free to sell products and services that are not against health and the democratic public order.

3. Nicaraguans will have inalienable rights to broadcast opinions and news without any restrictions and will be free to conduct social research without any state control.

4. Religious rights are inalienable and [religious groups] are legally authorized to have their own written, radio, and television means of expression.

5. Citizens are free to organize in associations, labor unions, and parties without being subject to repression or sanctions. In order to prevent Marxism's repressive maneuvers, it is necessary to ensure full compliance with the principles of free unionism outlined in ILO Agreements Nos 87, 98, 135, 141, and 151. In addition, citizens should have the opportunity to participate in the debates, implementation, and control of economic and social policies, which are decisive for the country's development and liberation. This calls for clearly defining the labor sector's role with respect to the political parties and for independence in carrying out the labor unions' work. This means that freedom of union and association are inviolable rights. Those rights include free association in independent and autonomous unions, rights that are guaranteed through strict observance of the ILO conventions. This means an unyielding defense of the material and moral interest of the people as well as guarantees that they can participate in the country's social, economic, and political organizations.

In this framework, the professional and labor movement must be an efficient democratic force; that is, it must organize all the people who work to carry out a frontal struggle against the totalitarian autocracy. This frontal struggle against the Marxist autocracy implies fighting its sly agents, who are trying to divide the working people in exile by organizing phony organizations that do not represnt, ignore, the workers.

6. In a democratic Nicaragua there must be respect for the right to live, for habeas corpus, and for the UN agreements on human rights. Nicaragua is a member of the United Nations.

7. The Indian minorities have the right to exist and to develop in the framework of their culture and of the titled land on which they live.

8. All the laws and administrative dispositions that currently establish forced work, suspend parental authority, and impose forced recruitment, especially among youngsters and children, must be derogated.

9. This assembly acknowledges as legitimate the unitary process promoted by UNO [Nicaraguan Opposition Unity], because it represents the necessary road that will lead to the liberation of Nicaragua.

[Signed] Executive Committee
Julio Cesar Morales Prado, Carlos Pilarte Chamorro

Signature of person assuming responsibilities:
Miguel Angel Escudero S.
Identification card No 055391

HAVANA DISCUSSES WITHDRAWAL OF GATES NOMINATION

PA042131 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Elena Nunez commentary]

[Text] The scandal resulting from the secret sale of arms to Iran and the diversion of funds for the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries has created a crisis for the U.S. Government, which on the one hand faces serious charges and on the other growing discredit and lack of prestige. The White House is trying to give the impression that government activities are normal, but it has not been able to clear the climate of unrest and anxiety provoked by Irangate.

As a result of the Iran-contra case, several important U.S. officials have had to leave their posts. This includes National Security Adviser John Poindexter, Presidential Spokesman Larry Speakes, and CIA Director William Casey.

Robert Gates has now been added to the list. His nomination as CIA director had to be withdrawn because of evidence that he participated in the above-mentioned covert operations. When Gates was questioned by the Senate's intelligence committee, he contradicted himself and was unable to explain why he, as the second-highest ranking official of the espionage organization, did not tell Congress that profits from the sale of arms to iran were being transferred to the Somozists. It was later determined that it was Robert Gates who recommended that the White House send war materials to Iran.

To have a more complete idea about what kind of person was going to head the CIA, it should suffice to say that following the U.S. bombing of the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Banghazi, Gates said a combined attack by the United States and another country against Libya would permit -- and these are his words -- redrawing the map of North Africa.

Anyhow, it would have been very dangerous to appoint as CIA director a person so openly linked to the scandal. Under current circumstances, the U.S. Government is very interested in giving the impression that the people responsible for Irangate are being removed from their posts and that there is a thorough cleansing at the highest level.

The truth, however, is something else. The idea is to give the people and the media two or three scapegoats to evade the growing discredit swamping the White House. Some days ago, a foreign journalist asked Attorney General Edwin Meese to explain the developments that led to the scandal. Evidently expressing how complicated the matter is, Meese stated: It would take too long to explain.

U.S. 'LIES' ON HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS 'REFUTED'

FL041656 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1918 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Participants in the session of the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland, have said they are upset because the United States insists on creating fictitious situations to the detriment of the true problems being discussed there.

Over the past several months, Washington has been engaged in an active campaign to discredit countries -- particularly Cuba -- through alleged human rights violations.

Various delegates to the meeting have remarked that the tension the United States is generating distracts the commission's attention from serious human rights situations in the world. They cited human rights violations in Chile, El Salvador, South Africa, and the Israeli-occupied Arab territories as examples.

The U.S. delegation to Geneva is exerting strong pressure on other delegations to have them follow the U.S.-led campaign against Cuba.

Meanwhile, the Cuban delegation has protested the political manipulation the United States is giving the topic of human rights and reaffirmed Cuba's respect for man. Several documents circulating at the meeting have refuted the U.S. lies and cleared up the situation of alleged victims, who were punished for proven crimes against the revolution.

The Cuban group has also submitted a draft resolution denouncing U.S. human rights violations against Indian, black, and Puerto, Rican minorities in the United States, as well as the U.S. policy of aggression around the world.

SOVIET MISSILE PROPOSAL CALLED 'IMPORTANT STEP'

PA050000 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Mar 87

["Viewpoint" commentary read by Angel Hernandez]

[Text] Convinced that the security of our planet and the survival of mankind must be secured, the USSR this weekend proposed to separate the subject of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe from the set of problems to be negotiated to reach general disarmament.

With this attitude, the USSR is offering a good opportunity to those who said that if medium-range nuclear missiles were separated from the general discussion it would be very easy to reach an agreement to eliminate these kinds of weapons in Europe.

The suggestion made to the United States by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev therefore opens a new and real possibility of removing in the short term a large part of the nuclear arsenal in Europe.

If the U.S. Government ceases its demagoguery and reacts favorably, and if an agreement is signed without delay, as the USSR desires, this would be a very important step for disarmament. Not only do the foundations exist for this, but there is a text that was practically drafted when it was agreed upon in Reykjavik that within the next 5 years the USSR and the United States would remove all their medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe. This decision was not implemented because of the U.S. intransigence and refusal to stop its plan to militarize space.

Gorbachev's proposal has great military importance because if a final agreement is reached, it would allow the creation of the bases for an agreement on the substantial limitation of strategic weapons and their future elimination. These negotiations, as the USSR has repeatedly said, must be conditioned by a ban on deploying weapons in space, taking into account the interrelationship between the two problems.

One must not only speak in military terms, however, because the USSR's position has, above all, great political significane. It shows it is indeed possible to resolve the disarmament problem through talks. It is necessary to have the will and disposition for peace.

The USSR has proven its pacifist role with this step. It has also proven its interest in guaranteeing international security, and at the same time it is opening a path for the elimination of weapons on our planet. We should not forget that Europe is virtually a powder keg and that the reduction of weapons in Europe is a substantial step on the path to general disarmament.

It is now the United States' turn to give a response in Geneva. We will see if it behaves in accordance with the events or if Reykjavik occurs again, where the United States wasted the historic opportunity to reach important agreements for peace.

The Western superpowers have always tried to blame the Soviet Government for hindering disarmament talks. Once again, the USSR has shown with specific proposals that it is the primary side interested in detente and in reestablishing confidence as the prevailing element in international relations.

HAVANA VIEWS HUMAN RIGHTS 'VIOLATIONS' IN CHILE

PA042210 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Mar 87

[By Amalia Sanmartino]

[Text] Now that the U.S. Government purports to become the world's human rights champion, it hurls accusations helter-skelter while looking the other way when it comes to regimes it professes to be an unconditional friend of. Although we have discuSsed it before, today's case is still valid. Undoubtedly, Chile is one of the Latin American countries where human rights violations are more evident and terrible -- and more frequently reported recently.

Press reports from Geneva on Monday [2 March] extensively cover the testimony presented at the UN Human Rights Commission by Carmen Gloria Quintana, a young woman who barely survived after she was set on fire by Pinochet's soldiers in July 1986. The horrible attack was broadly publicized then, but an accurate version was offered by Quintana. She said she and student Rodrigo Rojas were detained during a demonstration in Santiago, doused with gasoline, and set on fire. She also recalled that Rojas died 3 days later and that she demanded justice at a Santiago military court. After fake (?proceedings), however, the judge held a single soldier responsible for neglect. The soldier was released in January after paying a small fine.

Shortly after this attack that shocked all of Chile, Andres Palma, president of the Christian Democratic Youth, said the courts are unable to administer justice, because in Pinochet's Chile no tribunal can try those guilty of such bestial crimes, and because burning people alive and slitting the throats of opposition figures are repressive methods used by a regime determined to stay in power at all costs.

In addition, it is well known that repression is used to silence protests against this people's growing desperate situation. In fact, Chileans, virtually deprived of all guarantees, are constantly on the verge of being kidnapped, tortured, and murdered, but Washington takes great care not to say it.

SALVADORANS 'INJURED IN COMBAT' ARRIVE

FL050223 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Announcer-read report over video showing men being helped out of airplane]

[Text] This afternoon, 12 Salvadoran war casualties arrived in our country from the battlefields.

The departure of this new group from El Salvador is also the result of Red Cross efforts based on the Geneva Conventions that state everyone injured in combat has the right to medical attention. In this case, as in the previous cases, the Duarte government has been forced to meet the Geneva agreements. This also demonstrates that the FMLN is undoubtedly a political alternative in El Salvador.

Of the 20 injured who departed from San Salvador, 8 flew to the FRG, Switzerland, and other European countries.

Moises Martinez, chief of the FMLN in Cuba, and other Salvadorans in our country welcomed the injured at the airport.

HAVANA ANALYZES COSTA RICA'S ECONOMIC SITUATION

PA042130 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Mar 87

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] When there is talk of difficult economic situations in Latin America, experts tend to refer to those countries that have a large foreign debt. However, the debt of the small Central American nations also has a decisive effect on their domestic economies. These aspects are also negatively affected by the restrictive measures of the international banks.

Costa Rica is a good example of this, because for months the people have been pressuring the government to find an overall solution to the foreign debt problem and to correct its monetary policy, which affects almost 1 million workers.

Last week, a march of peasants, workers, and students through San Jose's streets became one more piece of evidence of the social dissatisfaction in Costa Rica. The demonstrators carried placards criticizing the IMF and calling for wage increases, a price freeze, and the establishment of a foreign debt moratorium.

There is general belief in Costa Rica that although the government of President Oscar Arias has been cautious regarding the recent Brazilian decision to declare a moratorium on the debt interest payments, Costa Rica will have to take a number of measures in this regard in the next few days if it wants to save its battered economy and prevent social outbreaks of greater consequences.

In his recent Latin American tour, the Costa Rican president spoke with Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid and said Brazil's decision will have valuable repercussions for all Latin American debtors. However, he did not announce any pertinent measures his government would take.

Costa Rica's foreign debt is almost $4 billion, making the country the second most indebted per capita in the world. To this must be added a dramatic forecast by the Costa Rican Planning Ministry. According to a document, in 1987 there will be an almost 87-percent deterioration in the trade balance, mostly due to the drop in coffee prices and to the increase in the import of staples.

Without a doubt, Costa Rica's economic situation is particularly difficult. President Arias seems to be aware of the difficulties he will have to overcome to reach an agreement with the IMF, which in the next few days will be sending a mission to San Jose to evaluate possible restrictive measures in the country.

In any case, the mobilizations and pressures of all types that are affecting the government show that the future will be an agitated one for the Costa Rican officials, who have yet to make any decision about the foreign debt.

BOLIVIAN UNIVERSITY CONFERS DEGREE ON CASTRO

FL262350 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2132 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Text] Bolivia's University of San Andres conferred today an honorary doctorate degree to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, President of the Councils of State and Ministers. According to the officials of that prestigious Bolivian higher education center, the high honor was given to the leader of the Cuban revolution because of his merits as a jurist, statesman, and Latin American leader.

The decision of conferring our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro the honorary doctorate degree was made unanimously by the Directorate Council of Bolivia's main higher education center in acknowledgement of the Cuban leader's political merits. The agreement invokes the university statute, which defines it as a national, scientific, democratic, popular, and anti-imperialist university.

MATANZAS SUGAR PRODUCTION FACING PROBLEMS

FL042147 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1926 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] The last 10 days of February were bad for sugar production in Matanzas Province. Yields diminished, losses increased, sugarcane was late, and recoveries decreased more than two units.

Although milling for the 10-day period was 88 percent, there is a delay of more than 45 million arrobas of sugarcane awaiting processing. So far 60 percent of the sugar production deficit in Matanzas is attributed to that reason, while 36 percent of the deficit is attributed to decreases in yields and lost time.

Other factors affecting current sugar production tasks in this province include the ups and downs in the deliveries of sugarcane and its quality in eight of the province's complexes, which is causing instability in milling and noncompliance with output goals.

GOVERNMENT INITIATES COFFEE RECOVERY PROGRAM

FL281917 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Station commentary]

[Text] If coffee exports do not now represent a high level of income for Cuba, the situation could improve notably in the very near future.

The country's leadership has now launched a coffee recovery program, which includes the development of new areas and permanent incorporation of hundreds of agronomic engineers. This is now gradually being fulfilled, and one will surely not have to wait for the promised results. The overall recovery program has three essential goals: checking the decline of the coffee industry, continuing the improvement of the standard of living in the mountains, and increasing the coffee harvest.

Cuba recently joined the International Coffee Organization and has designated an export quota of 10,200 tons form its annual production of 50,000 tons. This is a modest amount from an economic point of view, but the important thing now is the country's participation in any future agreements made within that organization, which can play a role in expanding trade ties with the 50 member-states, which have Third World economies.

CAMAGUEY CONSTRUCTION USING TOO MUCH CEMENT

FL031553 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1512 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Reports from Camaguey say the MICONS [Ministry of Construction] enterprises in this province have increased their cement consumption. This is based on an evaluation undertaken at the end of January that compared consumption with 1986 averages.

The evaluation shows that an extra one-half bag of cement was used per cubic meter in concrete mixes, for a 7 percent increase in comsumption.

The excessive consumption was located in the following construction enterprises: industrial works unit No 8, engineering unit No 16, and architecture unit No 17. Acceptable consumption rates were recorded for architecture unit No 8 and prefab unit No 7.

Cement is one of the construction materials that needs the highest energy costs to be produced. It is urgent to create awareness of the need to save this product.

AUDITS FIND FAULT WITH BASIC MEANS CONTROLS

FL042029 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1914 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Audits by the State Committee for Finance have shown deficiencies in controlling basic means, singling out the Ministry of the Steelworking Industry as the one with most units that have worked poorly.

The most common deficiencies that were detected include a lack of consistency between the subsidiary ledgers and the balance of the basic means account in the main ledger and inoperative, missing, and surplus cards.

Another error was the failure to keep tabs on the availability, shortage, and transfer of the basic means and the failure to take partial or full inventories when the personnel in charge of areas are rotated.

Havana, Villa Clara, and Sancti Spiritus Provinces showed the most deficiencies in controlling basic means in local government bodies, as did the Ministry of the Food Industry.

MINISTERS TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

FL280358 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2147 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] The main factors in improving poor communications technology in our country are an efficient operation to maintain the required quality, the elimination of deficiencies, and implementation of measures. To achieve this goal and to offer the public better service, this year has been declared the year of maintenance and rescue of technical equipment in all telephone networks.

In addition, the Communications Ministry will establish greater demands and improve supervision over the quality of the scheduled maintenance programs of domestic and international service equipment. The telephone branch of the Communications Ministry is planning to install pay phones this year and to implement a plan to control local and long distance dialing.

CROMBET URGES WORKERS TO RECTIFY MISTAKES

FL041630 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Jaime Crombet, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Secretariat, has urged all commerce, food industry, and service workers to deal energetically with mistakes and negative tendencies currently affecting the sector by completely eliminating poor service, indolence, privileges, and competence. Crombet made special remarks at an assessment meeting of that sector in Sancti Spiritus Province.

LAZO SPEAKS AT CRIME PREVENTION MEETING

FL021635 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Esteban Lazo Hernandez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Politburo and PCC first secretary in Santiago de Cuba Province, has asserted that the basis of the struggle against crime is to determine its causes and conditions and apply correct measures to eliminate them. Speaking at a prevention and social assistance commission meeting held in Santiago de Cuba, Lazo said a society free of crime and antisocial activity will be achieved only with the participation of all the people, organs, enterprises, political and mass organizations, and other groups.

It was reported in the meeting that the crime rate in the province fell during 1986. The reduction was not significant, however, because crimes continued to damage the economy and society, especially because of their seriousness.

AGITATION, PROPAGANDA SEMINAR OPENS IN HAVANA

FL032052 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1907 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] The third national seminar on agitation and propaganda and young workers began in Havana today to discuss the national workers movement's performance in those areas.

The meeting's primary goal is to step up fundamental tasks in these fields, particularly at this time when the working class is actively involved in the rectification process.

One of the topics discussed during today's session was the trade unions and young workers propaganda and orientation program -- which focuses on the role of activists in those areas -a voluntary correspondents, and training of the new generations of workers.

The seminar's agenda includes lectures on organization of work and salaries, socialist emulation, labor discipline, and adequate use of work hours.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER DIES; CAREER REVIEWED

FL041528 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Interior Ministry Brigadier General Luis Felipe Denis Diaz died yesterday in Havana after a regrettable illness. He was 53 at the time of his death and worked as deputy chief of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Central Committee Military Department.

In 1980, during our party's second congress, he was elected member of the PCC Central Committee and, in 1981, as deputy of the National Assembly of the people's government. Because of his performance, last year he was named deputy chief of the PCC Central Committee Military Department. He will be buried in Santa Clara this morning.

BRIEFS

SPANISH TRADE GROUP -- The Cuban section of the Cuban-Spanish Economic Trade Cooperation Committee was created during a ceremony in Havana today. The group plans to boost Cuban exports to the Spanish market, relay information of interest for the two sides, and send Cuban personnel to Spain for familiarization visits and trade technical training. [Text] [Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 28 Feb 87 FL]

SPORTS PROTOCOL WITH PANAMA -- A protocol for the exchange of sports specialists, trainers, and umpires has been signed in Havana by Conrado Martinez, president of INDER [National Institute of Sports, Physical Education, and Recreation], and Jorge Estenos, director general of the Panamanian National Sports Institute. INDER pledged to send experts to Panama to conduct classes, lectures, and seminars on several sports such as track and field, baseball, boxing, fencing, cycling, gymnastics, free wrestling, Greco-Roman wrestling, shooting, volleyball, swimming, water polo, diving, and handball. [Text] [Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1700 GMT 27 Feb 87 FL]